

Message Text

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TO USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 120641

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E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:SCUL CH

SUBJECT:CHINESE ARCHEOLOGICAL EXHIBITION: ORAL AGREEMENTS
AND PUBLICITY

REF: PEKING 0645

1. FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS KEYED TO "ORAL AGREEMENTS"
MENTIONED BY HSIAO TEH APRIL 18 AS REPORTED REFTEL PARA 4
(A) TO (E).

A. SECURITY -- WE AGREE

B. ORDER OF DISPLAY -- WE AGREE

C. RETURN TO CHINA -- WE AGREE; THIS IS COVERED IN OUR
DRAFT OF EXCHANGED LETTERS.

D. PRINCIPAL OFFICIAL PUBLICITY DOCUMENTS -- WE AGREE

E. MEDIA COVERAGE -- WE AGREE. WE ASSUME THAT CHINESE
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ARE REFERRING TO TV DOCUMENTARIES, JOURNALIST'S ARTICLES,

FILMS, ETC. WHICH DEAL WITH THE CONTENT OF THE EXHIBITION AND WHICH ARE MADE IN MANNER OVER WHICH WE HAVE SOME CONTROL (FOR EXAMPLE, EDUCATIONAL FILM OF EXHIBITION MADE INSIDE NATIONAL GALLERY). YOU MAY TELL CHINESE THAT WE BELIEVE SUCH EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS WOULD BE VALUABLE TOOL FOR BRINGING EXPERIENCE OF EXHIBITION TO WIDE AMERICAN AUDIENCE WHICH UNABLE TO SEE SHOW IN PERSON. WE WOULD, OF COURSE, CLEAR ALL SUCH PROJECTS AND THEIR CONTENT WITH PRC REPRESENTATIVES ACCOMPANYING THE EXHIBITION. YOU SHOULD POINT OUT TO CHINESE, HOWEVER, THAT OUR SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT GIVES US NO MEANS OF CONTROLLING NORMAL MEDIA NEWS COVERAGE OR REVIEWS OF THE EXHIBITION. FYI: WE UNDERSTAND CANADIANS WERE PRESENTED WITH SIMILAR "ORAL AGREEMENT" AND RESPONDED IN SIMILAR FASHION.

2. IN ADDITION, YOU SHOULD AGAIN INFORM CHINESE THAT WE THINK IT IMPORTANT FOR REASONS OF PUBLICITY FOR REPRESENTATIVES OF US SPONSORING ORGANIZATION TO GO TO PEKING TO SIGN PROTOCOL. MOST DESIRABLE WOULD BE TRIO FROM NGA (J. CARTER BROWN), KANSAS CITY (LAURENCE SICKMAN) AND NCUSCR (CHARLES YOST), BUT REPRESENTATION COULD BE HANDLED BY BROWN ALONE.

3. YOU SHOULD ASK CHINESE FOR THEIR CURRENT FEELING REGARDING OUR INVITATION TO PRC TO SEND DELEGATION OF ARCHEOLOGISTS AND MUSEUM PERSONNEL IN CONJUNCTION WITH EXHIBITION (PEKING 0559).

4. FIRST PUBLICITY RELEASE - FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF FIRST PUBLICITY RELEASE ON EXHIBITION. WE WOULD PLAN TO ISSUE THIS AFTER LETTERS EXCHANGED AND PROTOCOL SIGNED. YOU MAY INFORM CHINESE THAT WE WILL PROVIDE PRCLO WITH FULL TEXTS OF THIS AND ALL SUBSEQUENT RELEASES. BEGIN TEXT ARCHEOLOGICAL FINDS FROM THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA. THE EXHIBITION OF CHINESE ART AND ARCHEOLOGICAL ARTIFACTS FROM THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, SEEN IN EUROPE AND GREAT BRITAIN DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, WILL COME TO THE UNITED STATES AND GO ON VIEW THE SECOND WEEK OF DECEMBER, 1974, AT THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART, WASHINGTON, D.C.

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THE EXHIBITION ALSO WILL BE SEEN IN THE SPRING OF 1975 AT THE NELSON GALLERY-ATKINS MUSEUM IN KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI. THE OBJECTS WILL THEN BE RETURNED TO PEKING.

THE SOME 380 ANCIENT TREASURES INCLUDE THE NOW-FAMOUS FLYING HORSE OF KANSU (FIRST CENTURY A.D.) AND THE JADE AND GOLD SHROUD OF PRINCESS TOU WAN (LATE SECOND

CENTURY B.C.).

THE TRAVELING ASSEMBLAGE REPRESENTS THE CHOICEST OF THOUSANDS OF OBJECTS EXCAVATED IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA FROM 1949 TO 1972. INCLUDED ARE BRONZES, POTTERY, PORCELAINS AND TEXTILES RANGING FROM PREHISTORY TO THE YUAN DYNASTY ENDING IN THE LATE FOURTEENTH CENTURY A.D.

THE EXHIBITION WILL BE ONE OF THE LARGEST INTERNATIONAL ART LOANS TO COME TO THE UNITED STATES. THE TRANSPORT REQUIRES EXTRAORDINARY PACKING AND TRAVEL PROVISIONS. PACKED IN SPECIALLY CONSTRUCTED CASES FITTED WITH SHOCK-ABSORBING MATERIALS, THE EXHIBITION WEIGHS 13 TONS AND WILL BE BROUGHT TO WASHINGTON FROM CANADA. FIVE CURATORS FROM THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA WILL BE ACCOMPANYING THE EXHIBITION DURING ITS STAY IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE FIRST STEPS TOWARD BRINGING THE EXHIBITION TO THE UNITED STATES CAME ABOUT THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART. ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT IN PEKING BY THE UNITED STATES LIAISON OFFICE IN CHINA. IN THE UNITED STATES, PREPARATIONS FOR THE EXHIBITION ARE BEING HANDLED BY THE STAFFS OF THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART AND THE NELSON GALLERY-ATKINS MUSEUM WITH SUPPORT FROM THE STAFF OF THE FREER GALLERY OF ORIENTAL ART AND IN COORDINATION WITH THE LIAISON OFFICE OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA IN THE UNITED STATES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE'S BUREAU OF EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS.

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GENEROUS GRANTS TOWARDS THE EXTRAORDINARY EXPENSES OF THE EXHIBITION HAVE BEEN PLEDGED TO THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART AND TO THE NELSON GALLERY-ATKINS MUSEUM BY THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION. FYI: PAN AM HAS INDICATED ITS DESIRE TO RETURN THE EXHIBITION FROM KANSAS CITY TO PEKING. IF AND WHEN SUCH ARRANGEMENTS ARE FIRM, WE WILL WANT TO ADD SENTENCE GIVING PAN AM CREDIT END FYI.

5. FYI: WE PLAN TO PUT ANY "ORAL AGREEMENTS" REACHED INTO DIPLOMATIC NOTE TO BE DELIVERED TO CHINESE ON DAY OF SIGNING. WE UNDERSTAND THIS WAS PRACTICE ELECTED BY CANADIANS. END FYI. KISSINGER

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